



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

28 April 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN  
Chairman  
The Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT : Net Assessment of North Vietnamese  
and South Vietnamese Military  
Forces

1. At Secretary Laird's request, relayed to me by Rear Admiral Daniel Murphy, I am forwarding the attached four copies of a 10 April memorandum entitled, "Net Assessment of North Vietnamese and South Vietnamese Military Forces." Admiral Murphy indicated that you needed four additional copies so that you could give one to each of your colleagues on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

2. As I believe Secretary Laird has already explained to you, the attached memorandum was prepared by the Agency at his request. In levying his request, Secretary Laird explicitly asked that the Agency do this study by itself and that we not coordinate in this exercise with any other component of the intelligence community or the U.S. Government.

3. We are well aware that our data base and experience factors on matters relating to the RVNAF are considerably less extensive than is the case on matters relating to North Vietnam's armed forces. Despite our best efforts, therefore, the attached

study may show an unintentional and unwitting imbalance occasioned by the terms of the Secretary's request which kept us from consulting our colleagues in DIA and the military services whose knowledge of the RVNAF's inner workings is considerably more extensive than ours.

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Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachments

SC 07038/72 (Copies 35, 36, 37 and 38)

cc: Admiral Murphy w/o att